

To all CAP PAOs:

Welcome to another PAO Update, an abbreviated version in comparison to recent updates:

2008 Wing Commanders Course – Seventeen of Civil Air Patrol's new wing commanders are at Maxwell Air Force Base this week for the 2008 Wing Commanders Course. This weeklong event will include some Public Affairs instruction as well as some mock press conferences led by the new commanders. The mock press conferences have become a NHQ PA tradition of sorts. They are a valuable learning experience for all involved. Just a reminder to all wing PAOs that a Hometown News Release has been written for the 2008 Wing Commanders Course. It is posted at www.cap.gov/visitors/members/public_affairs/hometown_news_release_program along with an attendee list. If your wing commander is participating, please localize this news release and send it out to your local media outlets as appropriate. Also, please provide us with a copy of any publicity that results from your efforts.

2008 CAP Public Affairs Officer Academy – Registration for CAP's second PAO Academy begins this week. Stay tuned to www.cap.gov/visitors/members/public_affairs. Registration information should be online by the end of the week. Meanwhile, the PAO Academy Advisory Board is wrapping up plans for the academy. Board members will meet next week to approve an agenda. PAO awards competition information will soon be available as well. Be thinking about what you would like to enter. Contest rules go out soon. The 2008 PAO Academy will feature concurrent sessions for both beginner and advanced PAOs. There also will be some joint sessions. Presenters will focus on the theme, "Public Affairs Essentials: Think Nationally Act Locally," in providing participants with training specifically designed to meet the needs of today's PAOs. In addition, each PAO will have his/her photo taken with CNN's Miles O'Brien, the featured speaker of this year's academy. So, mark your calendar now for Aug. 5 and 6, and plan to be with us in Orlando.

President's Awards – Calling all presidential award winners. In preparation for a *Civil Air Patrol Volunteer* story, NHQ PA is seeking notification of recent presidential honorees. Four have been uncovered to date – Robert J. Goodreau of the Ohio Wing, Nathan Brudjar of the Virginia Wing and Buddy Harris and Christina Zarrilli, both of the Florida Wing. Are there other CAP members who have been honored with President's Awards in the past 12 months? If so, please let us know by April 30. We want to move forward with a story on these members and their outstanding accomplishments.

Online Magazine – CAP PA is planning for an online magazine, which will replace CAP News Online. What would you like to see in the e-edition? Are there certain sections or regular features you would like to resurrect from "CAP News" or new ones you would like to see? What do you think about member columns? Would you like to see more photos? Is there enough cadet news online? As always, we welcome your input. Please pass along your ideas to scox@capnhq.gov.

Finally, please keep former Northeast Region PAO Lt. Col. Connie O'Grady and her husband, John, in your thoughts and prayers. Lt. Col. John O'Grady is awaiting a kidney transplant. Both Connie and John have served faithfully as members of CAP's PAO community, most recently as co-PAOs for the Northeast Region.

Contact me or CAP PA's deputy director, Julie DeBardelaben, at jdebardelaben@cap.gov or 877-227-9142, ext. 250, if you have questions or comments about this update. As always, thank you for your service to the Civil Air Patrol and CAP Public Affairs!

Regards,

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